

# **The Australian Annual Flying SAUCER Review**

**Unexplained Visitors from Where ?**



**The Victorian UFO Research Society**





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The Society welcomes reports of unusual Aerial Phenomena and evaluates each report on its own merits and if requested, reports will be held in strictest confidence. The Society exchanges information with many similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public, available information on the subject, which includes local, interstate and the latest overseas developments in its quarterly publication "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", posted to all members. Address all communications to:

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# The Australian Annual Flying SAUCER Review

# Australian U.F.O. NEWS



## Editorial

# "Where Have all the UFOs Gone?"

*You well may ask! Since 1978, UFO sightings have dived to new and lower limits. To coin a phrase it's a "World UFO Depression".*

*Never the less, sightings come in. Many in the areas of LIGHTS IN THE SKY and old sightings where the reporter has decided he must tell his story. But multi and good sightings are at a minimum.*

*Right or wrong, this must indicate that UFOs are not just the work of man's imagination, but an IDENTITY, that at will can come and go when it pleases.*

*In these hard times, escapism is so much more required by the public. Movies like E.T. and news like Space Shuttle and the world depression, would to all the critics reasoning, feed and generate the UFO sightings, as people try to escape real life with Fantasy and stories. This was the reasoning behind the 1969 multi-sightings. The fuel for these fantasies was the moon landings and the Vietnam War. But this is not so, in fact the opposite has occurred this time, as there are no mass sightings or good reports of incidents like CE3 and UFO photographs.*

*What is the reason? Well, we do not know, but we can say that although the Hoaxer enjoys periods of UFO activity, 99% of the sightings in the last 30 years are either genuine mistakes or real UFOs.*

*Let's face it with the introduction of the computer into UFO research, the Hoaxer's days are just about over and the critics have one less excuse to hold up their ideas.*

*I can only recall the words of a famous rocket and space scientist Dr. Hermann Oberth, who said "I believe extra-terrestrial intelligences are watching the earth and have been visiting us for millenia in their flying saucers."*

*Intelligence is the key word to the UFO and the probable explanation to "Where have all the UFOs gone?"*

J. W. AUCHETTL

## Three Thousand Years of UFOs?

Strange things in the sky have been reported throughout recorded history: but then so have strange things on land — from fairies to Abominable Snowmen — and from the sea — mermaids and sea serpents. Even in our scientific age there are a great many things we cannot account for in terms of present knowledge: in the childhood of mankind, the entire universe was made up of mysteries.

Even then, man sought for explanations instead of just accepting things as they are. He created a parallel world, and peopled it with superhuman beings, to account for what he could not understand — gods of thunder and ocean, goddesses of harvest and death, nymphs of the streams and woods. As his knowledge increased, he found he could manage without the Gods of Olympus: but because there were still many smaller mysteries, he retained his belief in witches and demons, magicians and spirits of the dead.

Tantalisingly, while man's increasing knowledge solved his existing problems one by one, his continual curiosity kept finding more problems demanding a solution. As it became easier for him to travel across his planet, he found traces of very strange things, things hard to explain in terms of his existing knowledge: the strange markings of the Nazca Lines in Peru, which seem to make sense only when seen from the air; the baffling architecture of the Pyramids; the riddle of the Easter Island carvings; and the stone alignments of Carnac in Brittany — these are just a few of the archaeological problems which continue to baffle the scholar.

In search of an explanation, man turned to written records preserved by other cultures: there he found references to gods who visited the earth and travelled in airborne chariots. The consequence has been a vast new literary industry of speculation about early man. Some of it has been soundly based and has led to important re-evaluations of our ancestors, particularly with regard to the amount of skill and knowledge that they possessed. But alongside this solid research has been a vast structure of speculation that our earth has been visited periodically throughout history by extraterrestrial beings from superior cultures. UFOs, it is suggested, are only the latest manifestation in a continuing saga of interplanetary visitation.

It is impossible to summarise all the relevant literature here but, insofar as it affects our study of the UFO phenomenon, we must consider whether it has a useful contribution to make. On the basis of the evidence hitherto presented, the answer to that must be a regretful negative.

The archaeological evidence for early extraterrestrial visitation is very limited in extent, and totally inconclusive. There are indeed some strange artifacts lying about in the jungles of South America: but there is not the slightest reason to pre-suppose any form of celestial origin. Alleged portrayals of space visitors by primitive artists can easily be given alternative explanations. To see a UFO-shaped inscription on an undeciphered Cretan tablet does not prove that the Minoan civilisation was visited from space.

The written records — the testimony of mythology — while undoubtedly of the greatest interest, are equally inconclusive. Even if we yield so far as to say that there is good evidence that some early human cultures had to some degree mastered flight, that would still not imply that the secret was taught them by beings from other worlds.

So, while such theories are almost impossible to disprove, we must face the fact they are based on the flimsiest of evidence, often manipulated in a most unscholarly manner. Let us by all means keep an open mind on the subject and admit the possibility of extraterrestrial visitation. But let us not look to these theorists for any useful help in our very real problem of understanding UFOs in the twentieth-century skies.

"U.F.O. THE GREATEST MYSTERY" By Hilary Evans



# The Close Encounter of Maureen Puddy

By Judith M. Magee  
Copyright 1983

Even though this incident occurred in 1972, at the time, two of the incidents received coverage in the Australasian Post, it was never included in a VUFORS publication. We are now correcting that omission and present, for your interest, a C.E.3 case, (Close Encounters of the Third Kind).

The subject is 27 year old Mrs. Maureen Puddy and her triple UFO experience of a C.E.3 nature. I might add that I am very sceptical of other people's experiences such as this, but after speaking with Maureen, and not being able to analyse the object and its subsequent effects away as a natural phenomena, I decided we had something of a somewhat unusual character.

A member phoned me to say that someone was relating a UFO story on 3AW Melbourne radio. I immediately requested the phone number of the witness and ultimately spoke with her for one hour.

I was told that her young son had been injured when a cupboard at school had fallen on him and her had been taken to a Melbourne hospital by the "Angel of Mercy" Helicopter Air Ambulance.

While driving home from a visit to the boy on the 5th July, 1972, she called in an her mother's, on the Nepean Highway, for a cup of tea and a chat, leaving about 9.15 p.m., taking the short-cut along the Mooraduc Road from Frankston.

On this occasion, she saw a blue light reflected down over the car and thought it was the helicopter flying overhead, may be trying to get a message to her, although how they could tell her car in the dark had not occurred to her; so she thought she had better stop to see what they wanted. She had not bargained on what confronted her. A large circular object, like to saucer placed together, with one upside down — the usual saucer shape. The object was possibly, in her estimation, two telephone poles high, and would have spanned the macadam strip of road 24 feet wide, also taking in the "nature strip" on either side of the road, making the "saucer" approximately 100 feet across.

She leaned back against her car, took a long look at the object and wondered what it was she was seeing. The object's surface was smooth with no joins, welds, seams or rivets; no doors, windows or portholes and no wheels. The huge object was radiating a brilliant blue light all around — an intense glow — there was no movement, no wobbling or rotating, but a faint humming could be heard.

She must have noted all these things while wondering what sort of aircraft it was and before fear took over; at which time she quickly got back into her car and drove off as fast as she could, only to find the object was maintaining its position just above and behind the car. No matter how fast she travelled, the object seemed to remain at the same distance.

Aware that the blue light was no longer with her, and seeing a very bright light streaking off in the opposite direction, Mrs. Puddy realised the chase must be over. It had followed her for about eight miles!

The witness reported her sighting to the Police at Dromana, some family members and also some friends, who considered it all a bit of a joke, so she decided to say no more about it . . . until about three weeks later.

Then, on Tuesday 25th July, 1972, after having visited her son again, she followed a similar routine, a cuppa with her mother enroute home; and left at almost the same time, about 9.15 p.m.

Maureen arrived at the Mooraduc Road, travelled on a shorty distance of about one mile, when the blue light appeared over her car once more. "Oh no! Not again!" she thought, "This time I'm not going to sop". She grabbed the steering wheel more determinedly and put her foot flat to the floor, but the car just drifted to a stop on the side of the road. No matter what she did the Holden would not reply to her demands. She was wondering "where do I go from here", terrified. She gripped the wheel and looked out the windscreen to see the object hanging silently in the air above her car, the countryside bathed in blue light. The a voice spoke to her; not audibly but in her herad, she said, as words had been put into a computer and come out in the most beautifully modulated voice and perfect English she had ever heard. During this time she experience a most unusual sensation. She said if one could be in a vacuum then she felt she had been — perfect silence and stillness. The message was,

*"Do not be afraid . . . we mean you no mean . . . your tests will be negative . . . tell the Media . . . (longer pause) . . . you are now in control".*

At that moment her car started up again as if she had turned the key. She sat there for a moment or two, then drove off as fast as she could.

She stopped at the same police station only to find it closed, then went to the next, still on her way home. She told the officer, "I want to make a report of a sighting of a flying saucer". "Oh yes, Madam", came the reply. She insisted, in fear and frustration so the policeman humoured her and she had it recorded.

Next morning she phoned Laverton RAF Station to ask if they could offer any explanation of what she had seen, to which they replied that it could not have been an aircraft or balloon as neither would have been in her area at the time; but don't say anything as it could cause panic. They would send her a questionnaire to complete, but when later asked about this, told me, "You'd need to be an astronaut to understand it", and I believe she did not bother to return it.

Naturally, we questioned Maureen regarding her experience in the car. What did the messages mean? She said she had not had any recent tests done, but some about six months ago proved negative. There was no use telling her not to be afraid, she was

terrified! As for telling the media: she phoned three of the four T.V. stations. One was mildly interested since they were showing "Chariots of the Gods". Two made light of her news, so she did not bother to contact the fourth. I heard through a radio talk-back program she had contacted in desperation, because the UFO-nauts had said to contact the media and she was scared they'd come back if she didn't and she did not want to see them again!!

At this stage I had not actually met Maureen, only spoken to her per phone; but she agreed to address VUFORS meeting in Melbourne and she kept the people spell-bound for about two hours. The hall was crowded, there were even people in the lobby listening through the speaker system — thoroughly fascinated!

During the question period that night, Mrs. Puddy was really 'put through her paces': "Did she think what she saw was a psychic phenomenon?" "Did she suffer any burns or after effects?" To both these questions she answered "No". "Did she think there were any other witnesses?" She thought there must have been one at least, because as she was approaching a railway crossing, she saw a man with a torch, leadin a cow up one of the side roads. Surely the UFO must have passed very close tdo him, but woul9d have been going in the same direction. Later the man's wife contacted her and also a lady living on a ridge, not far from the highway, — bot hhad seen the light!

Thrd third experience, which was purely psychic,m occurred about six months later.

One Wednesday, I received a phone call from a rather agitated Maureen Puddy, who said she had been trying to contact VUFORS. Her story goes:

*For some days she had been hearing a voice calling her to "return to the meeting place". Believing she heard someone calling her name at the front door, she went to open it and her husband, who was an invalid in a wheel-chair, asked who it was: but there was no-one there! When she went shopping, she heard "Maureen, Maureen, return to the meeting place", and she looked around to find there was no-one near. She felt she had to go to the meeting place but she was far too scared to go alone, so I told her that Paul Norman and I would be available when she wished to go. With a little gentle persuasion she agreed to go that Wednesday evening.*

Paul fuelled his cars while I prepared a hot drink and some supper, for we didn't know whether or not we would be just sitting for most of the night and we would need some fuel to keep us warm even though it was supposed to be summer.

I need not have been so apprehensive because the UFO-naughts had our evening all worked out for us. I had, over the phone to Maureen, described Paul's car and told her where we would meet her; opposite the electricity sub-station, where the road widens, at about 8.30-900 p.m. We were early and it was not yet dark, so we could see Maureen's Holden station-wagon when she arrived. She got out of the car and ran towards us saying she nearly "went off the road back there". I suggested she tell me about it as we drove to the meeting place.

Before going further, I should perhaps add, that as I entered her car I had the odd feeling that something was amiss, I was experiencing a tingling sensation (like that of a mild electric shock), which shortly passed off. Maureen then told me that in the

centre of the front seat, between where the two of us sat, had appeared an entity completely clad in a type of gold foil suit. As she turned to look in his direction, she was so startled she almost ran off the road. It was quite obvius she was quite shocked by the eventful drive . . .

By this time we had reached the "meeting place" which was somewhat hidden from passing traffic by a few trees. We drew to a stop and Paul came to sit in the back seat of the station-wagon while I stayed in the front seat with Maureen.

We were talking about the latesty incident along the road, when suddenly, she grabbed by arm and pointed accross her car, exclaiming: "There he is! Can't you see him?" and she took my arm saying that I must be able to — I tried to explain to her that it was like closed circuit television — from him to her.

She said he was coming closer to the car, in fact, so closer that if I put my arm out I could possibly touch him. He was now standing almost beside the front headlight, so I asked Paul to take a little walk around the car. As he came to where the entity was standing, he moved back to allow Paul to pass between him and the car. At this point thie entity beckoned to Maureen to follow him, but she adamantly declared that she would not. I told her I'd go with her and tried to gently ease her out of the car; but she hung onto the steering wheel and would not budge.

The entity then became impatient when she would not follow and she became a trifle upset. He apparently disappeared behind bushes and she suddenly commenced describing the interior of the UFO. She told us that the entity was standing there pointing to a large "mushroom" like object, in the centre of a large circular room. The centre object, which was taller than an average person, was a little like a jelly, moving all the time; there were lines like those of Roman numerals around the lower portion. The top of the "mushroom" had lines on it and the whole thing seemed fixed to the floor. She was apparently looking around the room and became very agitated at this point, crying "I can't get out! There are no doors or windows. I can't get out!"

I put my arm around her shoulders in an attempt to calm her, and cou9ld feel tears on my hand. She was really upset and as I clearly visualized what Maureen was describing, I decided to directy my thoughts to the entity; nothign to lose and maybe something to gain — as I was very concerned about Maureen's state. I felt she may have a nervous collapse or even a stroke. I silently requested he take pity on the poor girl. suddenly she said, "He wants me to close my eyes". I replied that she should do so and almost immediately I felt her relax as if in a trance.

Again she continued to describe the interior of the object and once again became agitated when she could see no way out of the vehicle. After a brief period she "came back to us" and we switched onthe car's interior lights and asked if she'd care for a cup of tea, from our thermos flask. I had just handed Maureen her cup when she said, "Oh, I'm back in there again", and repeated the description but this time somewhat more calmly, before stating, "He's gone. This time he's really gone. I can tell. It feels different."

She now seemed quite normal, so we went on with our supper, discussing the "mushroom" and trying to identify it. I asked if it could have been a gyroscope, but Maureen was not apparently familiar with that term so "comnpass" was suggested.



She picked off a little gadget from the dashboard of her car and to my amazement it was exactly what I envisaged from her description of the "mushroom". A small compass on a suction cup. I had not seen one before or since.

We did not dare let her drive home alone, nor did she wish it, in case of a return visit from our "friend", or nerves on her part. I drove in her car with her and Paul followed in his car. I believe it was between 10.30 and 11.00 p.m. when we arrived at her home. We did not take particular note of the time but it was fairly late.

Two thoughts on this third Puddy incident:—

1. Was I also able to communicate with the entity? Did he really receive my thoughts regarding her agitated state? If so, what thoughts can they receive from more important and 'delicate' situations than that particular one? Can they transmit to us?
2. Have you ever watched a "fun" hypnotist at work? "When I snap my fingers, you will go into a deeper trance", etc. Was the second meeting (July 25th 1972), about which Maureen stated that while she was sitting in her car, just prior to the voice speaking to her, "that if you could be in a vacuum, then I have been in one" — such an incident? There was no sound, nothing moved, all was calm and quite, then the voice delivered its message. Was this third incident due to the "snapping of the fingers" when they urged her to act?

If so, how many people can they hypnotize, perhaps even in their sleep so we react as "they" wish, whenever they "snap" their fingers? I find this a very sobering thought.



## Computers —————

## ————— Say U.F.O.s Real

A computer declares that U.F.O.s are real.

A young French scientist, Claude Poher, decided to prove once and for all the actual existence of flying saucers. Out of 35,000 U.F.O. observation reports that he had been able to collect, he selected the thousand best ones, translated them onto IBM punch cards, and fed them to a computer.

Then he fed to the same computer the apparent characteristics of everything that could be seen in the sky and mistaken for a flying saucer — such as the planet Venus, weather balloons, marsh gas, or meteorites. The computer was to compare these with the U.F.O. sightings and reach a final decision. The verdict of the computer was that flying saucers do exist and cannot be confused with anything else in the sky. They have landed hundreds of times in deserted spots, far away from urban areas. They appear during the day as bright metallic objects reflecting sunlight and casting shadows and during the night take on yellowish or greenish-orange colour. They can appear in the form of discs, spheres or even cigars.

The computer found that 70 percent of the observations were made at night, one in 10 involved landings, and one in 20 were cases when extraterrestrial astronauts were seen by or had contact with humans. Very powerful magnetic forces were always present. These forces could cut the power of automobile or aircraft generators, disturb radio transmissions and make all kinds of electromagnetic instruments go completely crazy. Maurice Chatelain, former aerospace electronics engineer, offers an interesting theory in his book "Our Ancestors Came from Outer Space" about how the space travellers use our planets to reach Earth.

"Arriving from a far away stellar system with a very high velocity, these spaceships could use the enormous gravitational attraction of the four big planets of our solar system to slow down and settle into an orbit around Jupiter or one of its four largest satellites. There, like an airport terminal, they could wait for their connecting flight, the planet Mars, to pass by and then settle into an orbit around that planet. There they could wait again for the Earth to pass by and then settle into an orbit around the Earth or moon".

According to polls, U.F.O.s have been seen by more than 15 percent of the population of the United States, including President Carter. And more than 50 percent of all Americans believe that visitors from inner or outer space actually exist. Percentages in areas like the Caribbean, where U.F.O.s are so frequently sighted, are much greater.

Charles Berlitz, author of "The Bermuda Triangle" and the subsequent book, "Without a Trace", believes that U.F.O.s are definitely linked to the mysterious disappearance of planes and ships in the Bermuda Triangle area off the coast of Florida.

U.F.O. sightings have occurred in all parts of the world, however. Jacques Vallee, the French astronomer and NASA scientist, mentions that in China foreigners are often asked if other countries besides China have U.F.O.s.

Many persons believe that U.F.O.s have been with us a long time and cite the Biblical account of Ezekiel and the wheel as a possible U.F.O. encounter. What are the U.F.O.s up to? No one seems to know. Some people regard them as friendly and others as hostile.

To some people, they have a religious significance, are a sign of the Last Days, and a reminder that the Bible speaks of warfare in the skies, as well as on Earth, in the time of Armageddon.

General Douglas MacArthur thought they were hostile and that the nations of the world should unite to defeat them. But a computer said the spaceships had all the military advantages.

Following are a few of the theories about U.F.O.s and their aims:

- They are from a dry planet and seeking water, which they are taking from the seas of our planet.
- They are collecting specimens of animals and mobile devices, such as planes and ships, for comparison and study.
- They need other elements, perhaps gold, for their electronic systems and conductors. (There are approximately \$360 million worth of gold in every mile of seawater).
- They are protecting us from innate tendencies to destroy ourselves and our portion of the universe.
- They are keeping air and space travel under surveillance to make sure we do not leave this planet on missions of conquest.
- They are extraterrestrials using the electromagnetic and other natural forces of Earth as an energy supply source for intergalactic travel and regard the inhabitants of Earth and their welfare with cosmic indifference.

These are just a few of the many theories.

Many prophets believe that the answer may come within the near future and that it may have a Biblical significance. Some even predict the Rapture may take place by U.F.O.s.

by George Butler, Times Staff Writer

# Some Highlights in Australian Ufology

By Paul Norman

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My own first highlight in Australian Ufology occurred in the early sixties, when I became associated with the Victorian UFO Research Society, (VUFORS). Ever since my first cruise to this country, while serving in the U.S Navy, I wanted to return. I was most impressed while attending an official function where the mayor gave the welcoming address to visiting servicemen, inviting us to return after the war, for permanent settlement.

Since I was involved in UFO research, I naturally made enquiries into the private and official activity within that particular field of research. Recommendations came from individuals actually engaged in UFO investigations, who were not only with private groups but also associate with the military community. It was from these pioneers of ufology that I learned of the Melbourne original group and the follow-up organisation, founded by Peter Norris, LLB, who headed the Victorian group, as being one of the most reliable in the world.

After migrating in 1963, I found that I had been recipient of good advice and have never regretted my association with an organisation where the policy is to mind its own business and minus the 'stand-over' tactics attempted by a few individuals in this field. VUFORS co-operates with individuals and organisations when the co-operation is reciprocated.

Soon after arrival, I learned of the official attitude with regard to the subject. The RAAF in reply to my inquiry stated.

*"The RAAF is interested in UFO reports. All well-reported sightings are investigated . . . Details of these investigations are not made public".*

A policy that was to change over the next two decades. In 1965, the first UFO convention took place in Ballarat Victoria. It was organized by the Astronomical Society of that city. The conference was not only attended by ufologists and astronomers but by officials from the R.A.A.F. as well, including the former Air Marshall, Sir George Jones; an indication that there was some mild co-operation even at that time between individuals retired from and within the ranks of officialdom, and the Australian UFO Research Community.

Later, in 1967 VUFORS co-ordinated the visit of Professor James E. McDonald, one of the leading atmospheric scientists in the United States. He had formerly served with Naval Intelligence during World War Two. His visit was funded by the U.S. Navy. Since we did not have a submarine that could fly, Professor McDonald's interest was keen regarding reports of objects going into and coming out of the water.

One of the first definite indications that official investigators were not in agreement with the overall official policy concerning unidentified flying objects came to light during a meeting in Canberra, with an Air Force officer who had investigated one of the more interesting encounters. When we showed the officer a letter from headquarters concerning the case, he said the letter was altogether different from the actual report that he had submitted to Headquarters. We then suggested that he make a detailed report of his findings to Professor McDonald, with the stipulation that his name would remain confidential. This he did; however, his confidence was betrayed: not by VUFORS. Unfortunately, there are individuals in the UFO Research community who think they have more to gain by betraying confidence than they have to lose, which, however, is a selfish motive and not beneficial to overall UFO research. Two top priorities of VUFORS are honesty and sincerity.

On December 16th, 1954, front page headlines appeared in the Melbourne "Sun" newspaper and the Melbourne "Herald". They read:

**"NAVY FINDS SAUCERS ON OUR RADAR"**

The afternoon newspaper followed with:

**"THOSE SAUCERS: THE MYSTERY DEEPENS"**

The sighting was an outstanding Radar/Visual Encounter. The incident had occurred three months prior, during September, but the story did not become known to the press until December. A Navy fighter was flying to the Naval Base at Nowra, N.S.W. from Canberra, when two disc-shaped objects took up positions; one on each side of the aircraft. The pilot requested a radar check, which was down. Three blips showed up on the radar screen. Nowra directed the pilot to execute certain movements to identify himself, which he did. The UFOs gradually drew away and vanished. All the movements were confirmed on the radar screen.

Years later, in 1973, when Dr. Hynek visited Australia, VUFORS contacted the former pilot and made arrangements for a meeting between the officer and Dr. Hynek. Another example that we cannot blame altogether; the Air Force for mishandling the problem of unidentified flying objects. There have been many examples where servicemen in all branches have assisted private investigators with efforts in trying to ascertain the whither, whence and why of the UFO. Time and time again the Scientific Community has been called on for assistance, only to be told by some Professor of Impossibility, that there is no such thing as an unknown flying object.

Nevertheless, restrictions regarding information on UFO encounters are evident. For instance, a UFO was filmed by the captain of an airliner during a flight from Brisbane to Port Moresby. The captain reported the incident to Townsville Control. His instructions were radioed back not to have the film developed until his return to Australia. Upon his return, two officials were on hand to take the film. Although VUFORS was aware of the encounter, it was a few years later when we learned the captain's identity.

The revelation came after Judy Magee had given a lecture to a civic club in Melbourne. During the lecture she had mentioned the case. After the question period, while the members were having a cup of tea, an airline pilot approached Judy identifying himself as the co-pilot on that same flight when the encounter took place. He named the captain and Judy immediately recognised the name, as she had flown with him years ago as hostess.



On February 15th, 1963, a disc-shaped object with a transparent dome descended to a low level near a milking shed, located at Willow Grove, near Moe, Victoria. The main body of the object was described to be of a battleship grey. The UFO hovered a few seconds before flying away. During that time the cattle panicked, to the extent that they could not be milked. For a period of several weeks the cattle avoided the spot over which the object had hovered. The witness, Charles Brew, was the only observer, although his son Trevor was inside the shed and heard the swishing sound and the commotion among the cattle. Although the sighting was of short duration, VUFORS Investigators made the ninety mile trip from Melbourne and found that official investigators had already been there. The witness developed a headache, which he rarely ever had, but did not realise the pain was associated with the close encounter, until an official investigation had questioned him. A scientist from CSIRO, who accompanied the officer, took a rock sample for analysis. An indication that at least twenty years ago, Australian officials were making radiation and human physical checks which resulted from close encounters with UFOs.

There is a strong possibility that a UFO caused the death of 19 year old Gary Taylor, near Burkes Flat, Victoria, while he was driving to St. Arnaud, on 7th April, 1966; three days after a UFO encounter which had taken place at the same spot. Ron Sullivan, of Maryborough, saw an object rising from the paddock alongside the highway. As he drew near, he could see it was disc-shaped with beams of light of every colour of the rainbow. This incident was a highly strange encounter. Suddenly, his headlight beams were drawn in the direction of the UFO and "bent" in a V shape, back towards the road. The case was investigated by VUFORS. The UFO had left a depression in the freshly ploughed ground. There was no tracks leading to the spot where the depression was made. A few days later, after the death, a motorist phoned VUFORS that he had been approaching from the opposite direction and panicked when he saw the strange lights and had fled the scene. He was concerned that he had not reported the incident and was afraid to do so later, since it might be a police offence. Twelve years later, VUFORS found further confirmation that a UFO was indeed at the same location where Gary Taylor crashed into the tree opposite the depressed spot in the paddock.

Another driver who had been following at a considerable distance behind, saw the lights ahead and contrary to an incorrect statement in another publication, he could see no reason why the car had served. What the following motorist actually said was that "he thought the lights had blinded the driver ahead".

The above encounter occurred during a major Australian Flap. Just prior to the death at Burkes Flat, a science teacher and scores of students at Westhall High School watched a silver coloured object rise out of a paddock nearby and soar into the sky, leaving the grass pressed down in an oblong shape. The incident was investigated by four committee members of VUFORS, which included interviews with several witnesses. Later, military-like vehicles were seen in the area and men were seen examining the flattened spot. The field was then set afire.

In Victoria, we had a relatively quiet period for a few years, with an occasional interesting report. Although there has always been a flow of nocturnal light reports, these were mostly mistaken identity or insufficient information.

An interesting build-up of UFO activity began in September 1977, along the Murray River, near Leitchville/Echuca area. This flap reached a peak in December, which was the month and year that computer predictions were favouring the area of Siberia in Russia. Instead, the UFOs were putting on a display for the dairy farmers of Northern Victoria. The UFOs were not only demonstrating mysterious activity in the sky, they were seen to be landing and taking off from paddocks, leaving physical traces on the ground. VUFORS investigators spent a total of thirty days during a three month period interviewing witnesses and compiling reports, some of which are still to be published.

One of the most spectacular sightings began on the night of 13th December, near Leitchville, witnessed by at least twelve observers, who scrambled to the top of a shed to watch the display. A large UFO was first seen by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Church, to be descending to a low altitude at about the landing speed of an aircraft. They immediately alerted other members of the family, who in turn phoned neighbours. After the object became stationary, three smaller objects detached themselves from the large UFO. The first one flew a distance of 25 miles in two minutes before it took up a position between Pyramid Hill and the witnesses. Within five minutes the two other small objects had flown out from the parent object where they took up positions between Pyramid Hill and the larger UFO. During a period of four hours, what the witnesses described as meteors, fell within the 25 mile zone as if they were drawn into the zone by a gravitational pull. About one in every three "meteors" curved up before burning out. They fell at the rate of about fifteen per hour.

Australia has its share of UFO Aircraft encounters. On 22nd August, 1968, UFOs were sighted from a Murchison Air Services charter flight, by Captains Walter Gardin and Gordon Smith. The pilots were flying from Adelaide to Perth. The captains were interviewed by a psychologist, who was a VUFORS advisor. He sent Captain Smith's personal report to VUFORS. A large UFO was first seen by Captain Gardin, shortly after 7.30 p.m. He immediately aroused Captain Smith, who was asleep. The large object appeared to open up at which time smaller objects were seen to fly out of the parent object and continue to manoeuvre with the larger UFO. Finally, all objects joined "as if at a single command", and sped away. During the time of this operation radio communication failed, probably because of the usual EM effect of the UFO. After the objects flew away communications were restored. Later, when Professor James McDonald tried to make follow-up enquiries, the pilots refused to respond. We assumed because they were following instructions. Years later, a pilot who was personally acquainted with the captains, confirmed to VUFORS that they had indeed been told by their supervisors to discontinue discussing the incident.

One of the most outstanding highlights in Australian ufology, is no doubt, the Frederick Valentich case; the pilot who disappeared over Bass Strait, on 21st October, 1978, while he was describing a UFO as long as he could be heard. That incident has done more to change the attitude of some officials than any other UFO related event. This became obvious when an official actually contacted a witness to secure his permission to send newsmen to interview the observer for the purpose of publicising the report from a creditable witness, in order to encourage other reliable witnesses to come forward with good reports.

The encounter took place just twenty-two days after the Valentich disappearance. The witness was an active Master Mariner with thirty-five years of responsible sea-going experience. Some of the details of the sighting are covered in the VUFORS publication, Australian Annual F.S. Review (1981 edition).



VUFORS later found the opportunity to respond with a report of an outstanding physical trace case, which occurred on a property at Kilmany, near Rosedale, Victoria on 30th September, 1980. This encounter was reported in the December, 1980. This encounter was reported in the December, 1980, edition of the VUFORS Australian UFO Bulletin and a follow-up report with photos in the 1981 edition of the Australian Annual F.S. Review, (copies of which are still available). The RAAF was informed of our findings and available details on other outstanding cases have been submitted to officials, followed with discussions concerning cases where VUFORS investigators have been personally involved over the years.

With regard to the encounter at Kilmany, there were details which came to light during and after this unusual experience, not yet available for publication. These details will be published, with approval of the witness, in a future edition. Soon after the VUFORS publication of the preliminary report, a nine year old niece of the witness was killed when a car struck her while she was riding her bicycle. During the time of bereavement, a number of individuals disregarded the request of the witness to delay their visit for a few days. Consequently, their reception was cool and their published reports were saturated with inaccurate newspaper statements.

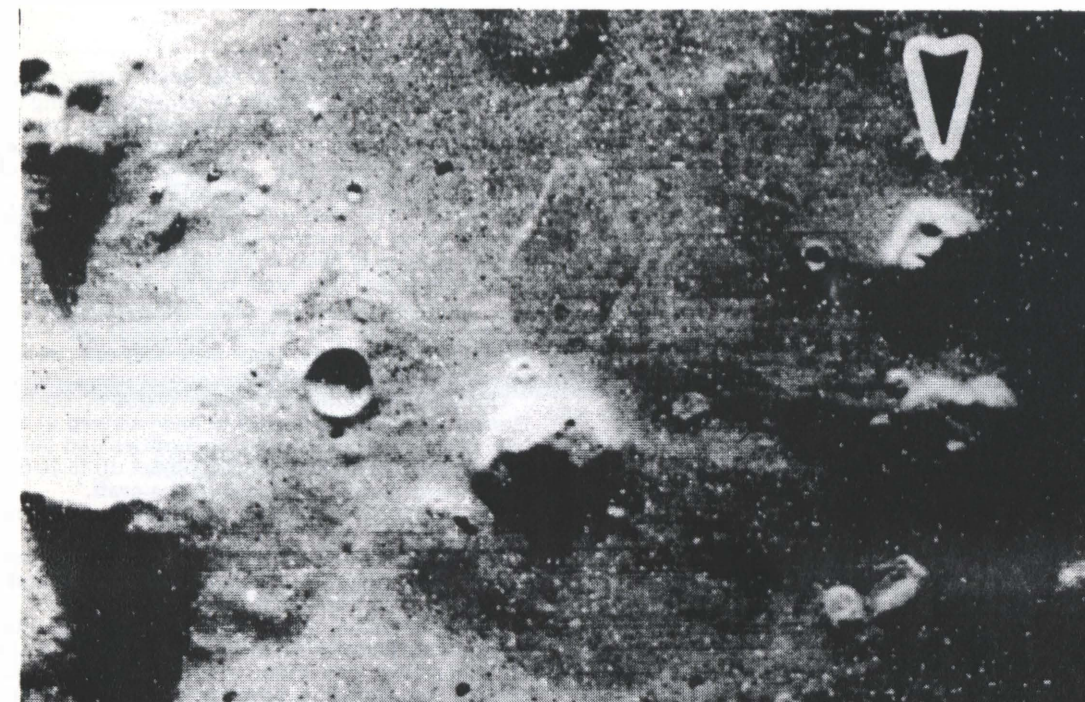
Currently, the situation is that unclassified reports are available for further studies. However, there remain other reports in official files which have not been made available. Some of them concern cases which we were personally involved in. There are also references to incidents which are not included in those files.

VUFORS is grateful for this better co-operation and will not argue the case. After all, VUFORS too, has confidential reports which are not available for publication and that confidence will not be betrayed.

Unfortunately, the person most responsible for this acceleration of co-operation and change in attitude of some officials is not here for the credit. He is Frederick Valentich, who either went up, down or disintegrated during an encounter with an unidentified flying object, over Bass Strait, on October 21st 1978.

The most outstanding documented encounter with a humanoid manned UFO in the Australian part of the world occurred on 26th and 27th June, 1959, at Boainai, Papua New Guinea. This famous encounter has been told and re-told throughout the world wide UFO Research Community. Rev. Gill addressed a large audience at the general meeting of VUFORS. This transcribed address is available.

\$4.00 per copy, P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, 3189.



★ **A NEW book claims that this picture, taken by an unmanned Viking spacecraft, shows pyramids belonging to an ancient Martian civilisation.**

A new book puts up startling evidence about the giant 'Red Planet'

# Life on Mars?

CREDIT.

By **MARCUS BLAKE**

**U.S. scientists say they have startling new evidence proving the existence of previous life on Mars.**

And they are taking the find so seriously that the facts have been put before the U.S. President, Mr Reagan.

The scientists hope to interest the President in a plan to send a joint U.S.-Soviet mission to the planet to investigate the evidence before the Russians decide to do so alone, possibly next year.

A remarkable recent book shows some amazing photographs taken only 1500 km from Mars by an orbiting unmanned U.S. Viking spacecraft after it had made an amazing 400 million-km journey to the "Red Planet."

These photographs are said to show a mile-wide rock, apparently carved in the perfect semblance of a human-like face and several pyramids in what appears to be the remains of a city.

Author David Wood says: "Richard Hoagland, of the Independent Mars Investigation Team, in Oakland, California, believes the objects could have been built by an alien civilisation which visited Mars about 500,000 years ago — when the planet apparently had a warm, wet period."

"Whoever the aliens were, they either perished or left for another star system. However, they may also have left a store or 'library' of technological information far in advance of our own."

The Mars photographs also seem to indicate that water once flowed on the planet, which increases the possibility that an advanced form of life could have lived there.



So what are the chances of there being any real ET's in space? Indeed, can some have already, as has been claimed, visited Earth?

Erich von Daniken's book, *Chariots Of The Gods*, in which he says that a spaceship visited Earth 2500 years ago, is looked on with scepticism. Though, certainly, his suggestions that ancient South American drawings depict spacecraft and that huge outlines of strange creatures were landmarks for such craft, are tempting.

More intriguing though is the mystery of the unexplained astronomical knowledge of the primitive Dogon tribe of Mali in Central Africa. Long before Western astronomers had telescopes powerful enough to discover it, the Dogons told explorers about a tiny star in the orbit of Sirius that was part of their sacred beliefs.

The star, known to astronomers as Sirius B, is invisible to the human eye, yet the Dogons knew that its orbit was elliptical and that it was composed of massively heavy material.

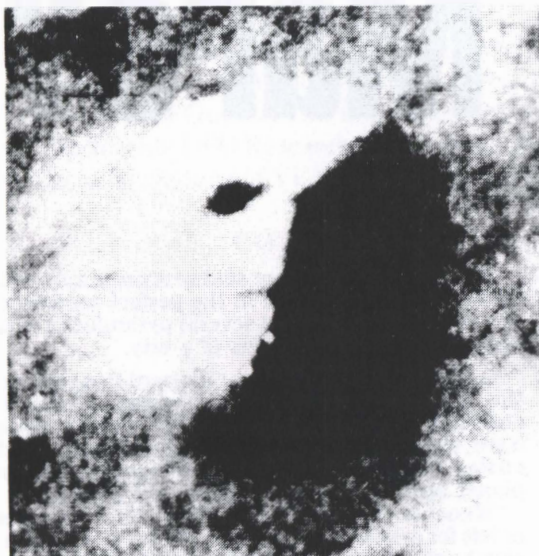
Remarkably, these primitive people's religious beliefs are based on a tribal legend that aliens from Sirius B visited Earth and passed on all this knowledge to them.

The Dogons refer to these spacemen as Nommos and say that they arrived out of the sky in a whirling "ark". Curiously, the Nommos, they say, were amphibious creatures.

This is intriguing as many ancient Greek myths involve highly-educated fish-men, similar to those

described by the Dogons, who civilised parts of the world, teaching science, writing and art.

The pygmies of the Ituri Forest, also in Central Africa, have remarkable astronomical knowledge too, of the planet Saturn. They spoke about it to early explorers as "the star of the nine moons." To astronomers' amazement Saturn was discovered to have exactly nine "moons".



★ CLOSE-UP of the mile-wide rock said to be carved into the likeness of a human face.

In more recent times, it has been claimed that an alien spacecraft crashed in America, killing its six occupants and that this has been kept secret.

The craft is said to have crashed near Roswell, New Mexico, on July 2, 1947. According to investigators Charles Berlitz and William Moore in the book, *"The Roswell Incident"*, six "humanoids", about 1.2 metres tall, were on board. They had no ears, only holes in the sides of their heads.

All were killed. The area, say Berlitz and Moore, was quickly sealed off and the wreckage and bodies taken to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio where they still are, the bodies preserved in formaldehyde.

One alleged witness was a civil engineer, the late Barney Barnett. He is said to have arrived at the site of the crash before the authorities and found "a sort of metallic disc-shaped object up to 10.5 m across and bodies lying round the craft."

He described the bodies as "like humans, but not humans."

What must be considered more seriously though are curious messages being picked up by investigators all over the world on tape-recorders.

These so-called Raudive voices, named after Latvian Konstantin Raudive who did much of the early research into them, are quite inexplicable, though one theory is that they are attempts by space intelligence to contact us.

The voices usually speak in a curious mixture of tongues.

It has been suggested that the space intelligence has learned parts of our languages from radio broadcasts, which is why the messages are a mixture and the grammar is often wrong.

It all started about 20 years ago, when Swedish film-producer Friedrich Juergenson made a recording of birdsong in the middle of a forest. When he played back the recording, to his amazement faint voices were on it.

He was sure that no-one had been within range of his microphone. After replaying the tape several times, he could make out a few sentences. One, in Norwegian, was: "Bird voices of the night." But another in Swedish, made his flesh creep. It said: "Friedrich, you are being watched."

Once Raudive became interested, he carried out, for electronic experts, an experiment inside a special wire cage through which no radio signals could penetrate. He was supplied with a new tape-recorder and a blank, unused tape. A team of scientists and journalists watched him intently as the tape-recorder wound on in silence.

When it was played back, more than 200 messages were on the tape, spoken by dozens of different voices in many languages.

One of the most significant messages he has picked up, he says, said again in a mixture of languages: "Certainly, we are a cosmic race."

Perhaps that American-Soviet mission to Mars will be greeted by more than microbes.

*Australasian POST, November 21, 1985*



# Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

## Application for Membership

I wish to join the Society and receive notices and publications.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

POST CODE: ..... PHONE: .....

OCCUPATION: ..... AGE: .....

Membership within Australia ..... \$6 (Aust.) Enclosed.

Membership outside Australia ..... \$8 (U.S.) Enclosed.

The Society welcomes reports of unusual Aerial Phenomena and evaluates each report on its own merits and if requested, reports will be held in strictest confidence. The Society exchanges information with many similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public, available information on the subject, which includes local, interstate and the latest overseas developments in its quarterly publication "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", posted to all members.



## An Old Australian Phenomenon

By John Auchettl

Much has been written about the UFO phenomenon since the 1950s, and because of this the majority of Australians believe that the UFO is a modern 1950 idea, and its presence is due to our type of society.

This is far from true and to the credit of many Australians and New Zealand citizens, such as newspaper reporters and men from the land and the sea, we as researchers are now finding out that reports of UFOs extend well back into Australian and New Zealand early European settlement.

Understandably, some of the reports are vague and lack good references. But on the same hand, the credibility and motives of the reporters in my eyes can not be disputed. They reported what they saw and had no reason to fabricate the sighting.

The following reports, collected here are from many sources, and are only some of the well reported cases. I trust with further research into the many newspapers, books and early documents, further such reports will be found, written by an observer who did not understand what he saw and what we now call the UFO PHENOMENON.

It only goes to show that nothing much has changed in the UFO sighting, except that in our technical age we as the reader and sometimes the observer can relate the UFO as a technical possibility.

### 1800

In the early 1800s, a ship reported a ball of fire came hurtling toward it with a thunderous noise and splintered the topmasts. A strong odour of sulphur was noted.

*Credit Ref. 2*

### 1868 — July 25th, Parramatta, NSW

Mr. F. W. Birmingham, a surveyor, experienced a vision involving heads floating by him and subsequently observed an 'ark' moving along the same path and landing in Parramatta Park. A voice spoke to him and asked if he wished to enter the ark. The surveyor replied that he would and was 'floated' to the object. A 'spirit' appeared 'like a neutral tint shade and the shape of a man in his usual frock dress'. He was shown around the ark after which the spirit disappeared and '... I fell, I suppose into my usual sleeping state, waking next morning deeply impressed with the vision of the night.'

*Credit Ref. 3*

### 1873 — South Australia

One of the earliest mentions of 'UFO activity' down under dates back to 1873 and comes from the *South Australian Register*.

It concerns a bright light that followed a sailing ship for almost an hour.

Captain Lebman, of the ship *Adelheid*, described the light as 'milky-white'. He said it came over the ship in waves, with one wave every two seconds between 10.30 and 11.30 at night.

'A shuddering feeling was experienced at the sight,' Captain Lebman said, 'and the intense light made the eyes ache.'

'During the whole time the sea was illuminated, though not vividly. For a quarter of an hour after it was over flashes of light were perceptible in the water.'

*Credit Ref. 6*

### 1874 — October at Beechworth, Victoria

A farmer reported an object over his field.

*Credit Ref. 1*

### 1885 — February, Pacific

In February, 1885, the crew of a ship sailing the Pacific, believed to be not far off the east coast of Australia, saw a large fiery red ball in the sky. It hissed overhead and fell into the sea, triggering a series of huge waves.

*Credit Ref. 2*

### 1885 — November, Pacific

Another case, in November involved a British steamer, the crew of which saw a huge ball of light rise from the water, move close to the ship and then dash away.

*Credit Ref. 2*

### 1893 — Central NSW

A farmer claimed that a saucer shape landed in one of his paddocks. As he approached the object, a man in strange clothing emerged from it. The farmer walked towards the man, who shone some kind of 'torch' at him, threw him to the ground and stunned him. When he came to, the man and the object had gone. The hand where the 'torch beam' had hit him was paralysed for life.

*Credit Ref. 7*

### 1909 — July 30th, Near Waikaka Valley, NZ

A boat-shaped object was reported by the crew of a dredge. Two occupants were standing looking out of a large window in the craft.

*Credit Ref. 4*

### 1909, August — Over Marlborough Sound, NZ

An object was reported to have appeared over Marlborough Sound, from which were ejected downwards, strange missiles, making fizzing sounds as they struck the water.

*Credit Ref. 4*

### 1909 — August 3rd, Near Waipawawa NZ

A man was almost thrown from his horse when a cigar-shaped object hovered overhead. The man reported three human-like figures standing on a deck. One of the occupants waved and shouted.

*Credit Ref. 4*

### 1909 — August 5th, Over Wanganui NZ

A newspaper man reported a UFO and heard a strange hissing noise as it flew over. The object was cigar-shaped with two wide wings.

*Credit Ref. 4*

### 1909 — October 25th, Western Australia

The next reported sighting was in Western Australia on October 25, 1909. Mrs. A. J. Roe, wife of the manager of Minderoo station, near Onslow, was the first to spot the strange craft.

'It looked compact, like a dirigible balloon,' Mrs. Roe said. 'but appeared to be squarer and more like an aeroplane.'

'The sun shone on it, and flashes came from it, as though reflected from something revolving, or from metal work.'



Three station hands also saw the UFO — which the newspapers of the day described as a 'mystery airship' — and one of them made a sketch of it.

The customs collector at Onslow, Mr. L. O. Temperley, submitted a detailed report on the sighting to the Minister for Customs who passed it on to the Defence Department.

Mr. Temperley thought that the object really was an airship — 'the work,' he suggested, 'of an inventor who was experimenting, or perhaps from a foreign vessel anchored off the coast.'

*Credit Ref. 6*

1910, August 3 — Adelaide, South Australia

## Mysterious Lights at Sea — Sea Captain Puzzled

Captain Nelsson of the coastal steamer *Wookata*, Second Engineer S. Arnold and Helmsman G. Rudd are at a complete loss to explain the meaning of curious lights which they witnessed when the vessel was passing Althorp Island on her way to Port Adelaide early the other morning. Bright lights 'as distinct as the masthead lights of a steamer but high up in the air', were observed by the trio, and the strange thing was that they circled around the *Wookata* in a tantalising way.

'It was about one o'clock,' said Captain Nelsson today, 'that the man at the wheel remarked, 'Do you see these lights flying about?' My reply was, 'Yes, there are a great many more lights about than I have ever seen here.' Just then I saw a mysterious light off Cape Spencer, which disappeared as suddenly as it came into view. Presently, the helmsman said, 'It is strange, but I have seen lights on the port bow, then right ahead, and then on the starboard side.' I stepped inside the wheelhouse, and on coming out again saw two lights just over the starboard bow no distance away, but high up. They seemed to pass us. They were as bright as our masthead lights, and as far as I could judge were from 200 to 300 yards distant. They were not a steamer's light. They were not high in the air. The lights appeared to be 10 yards apart, one a little above the other. I could not make it out. I said to the man at the wheel, 'Did you see them?' He answered, 'Yes, they are like German airships flying about.' I did not know what to think. I feel sure I saw something unusual — something which in my 45 years' experience of the sea I have never observed before.'

Second Engineer Arnold also declared that he saw the strange lights.

*Credit 5*

## U.F.O.s - The World Wide Enigma

"If you shut up truth and bury it under the ground, it will but grow, and gather to itself such explosive power that the day it bursts through it will blow up everything in its way".

... Emile Zola.

1911, March 11, Ballarat, Victoria

Another 'mystery airship' appeared over Ballarat (V) in 1911.

The daughter of the proprietor of the Sebastopol Pyrites Works at Ballarat, Miss Edwards, said that the 'airship' was first seen at about 6.30 on the evening of Saturday, March 11.

Miss Edwards, and seven other members of the household, studied the object through binoculars, and, according to the *Argus* report 'the body and framework of the machine could be distinguished.'

'It passed over Ballarat in an easterly direction,' Miss Edwards said, 'and in its course circled and made a sweep, as if the occupants intended to land.'

'It then swept up into the air, and was watched as it disappeared in the direction of Mount Warrenheip.'

Australia's first aeroplane flights were made in 1910, but it was not until many years later that aircraft became commonplace sights.

It is possible that what Miss Edwards and her companions saw was flight pioneer J. J. Hammond's biplane.

In March 1911 Mr. Hammond was flying regularly from a paddock at Sunshine, near Melbourne, taking up adventurous souls for joy rides at 20 guineas a time.

*However, there are no records of Hammond flying over Ballarat.*

*Credit Ref. 6 — Ref. 9*

1919 — Central New South Wales

Whilst travelling down a country road, a man came across an artifact resting near the roadside. He saw that a 'man' was apparently working on it, and went over to offer assistance. The stranger turned as if surprised and pointed something at the man, who was knocked senseless. When he came to the 'man' and object had gone. Subsequently he found that his memory was never the same again.

*Credit Ref. 9*

1920 — September 15th, Sydney, N.S.W.

'A luminous visitor of astonishing brilliance was seen by thousands of Sydney people a few evenings ago. It suddenly appeared in the sky, and from one of the heights of the Eastern Suburbs presented a startling spectacle, as fireballs or meteors usually do. So dazzling was the white light of the electrical phenomenon which lasted no longer than a couple of seconds, that it was impossible to say where it disappeared. It appeared high up in the Southern sky, and, contrary to the habit of many of these meteors, it did not explode. The light was a great illuminative power and as startling as an apparition. From the Southern Suburbs, the meteor apparently disappeared over the Western Suburbs but observers in other localities said it went out to sea.'

*Credit Ref. 11*



## 1920 — October 1st, Gould's Country, Tasmania

### MISSING AIRMAN

Rockets seen on the Coast

'Superintendent Western, of Launceston, late tonight received an urgent wire from Gould's Country near the East Coast of Tasmania, stating the lights, evidently rockets, were seen at 8 o'clock by several residents between the town and the Coast, 10 miles distant.'

*Credit Ref. 10*

## 1925, Moora, Western Australia

Two young men came across an object resting in a paddock. It was like two saucers on edge, with oval shaped 'windows' and four 'legs'. The men beat a hasty retreat and didn't return for several days. When they did, they found the earth scuffed about.

*Credit Ref. 8*

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## Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

## UFOs — The World-wide Enigma

*"If you shut up truth and bury it under the ground, it will but grow, and gather to itself such explosive power that the day it bursts through it will blow up everything in its way."*

*... Emile Zola.*

Since the 24 June 1947 — when pilot Kenneth Arnold reported observing nine shining "saucer-like" objects flying at 1200 mph over the Cascade mountain range of Western Washington USA — the controversy of the UFOs has been raging.

But many do not know that Arnold's report was NOT the Beginning. No-one can say when the phenomena of UFOs began any more than one can say when history began.

To the people of the Space Age, UFOs have become the will-o'-the-wisp of the heavens. Their legend has the elusive qualities of quicksilver. They are real — or the products of an overactive imagination. The night sky holds a thousand of them — there is nothing up there. Crowds watch their aerial manoeuvres — mass delusion or swamp gas. Sometimes they are hostile — other times they are reckoned to be "brothers" from advanced civilisations. Real or unreal, "Flying Saucers" are legend.

But do they really exist? Reports from accredited sources of UFOs seen in the sky have become so numerous that we must, at least, accept the fact that these observers are seeing something. Many hold, of course, that the matter can be simply explained — meteorites, weather balloons, satellites, even hallucination.

The Victorian UFO Research Society, in a clear and objective analysis of all such theories and sightings, states that beyond doubt phenomena exist which cannot be dismissed in such a way — that objects remarkable for their size, speed, shape and performance have been seen by observers in various parts of the world who, without reference to each other, have described them in astonishingly similar terms.

UFO reports depend on only two types of evidence:—

- (i) That of people on earth suddenly caught by surprise, not on the lookout, straining up to the sky and seeing for a few minutes (or even moments) at uncertain heights, objects flashing and dancing — almost the worst type of observation even when the observers are trained to look for sky travellers. No wonder they tell us little — and it's even more remarkable that photographs have been secured.
- (ii) The second type of evidence is more reliable. This comes from observers on the ground and in the air — pilots, radar technicians, air force personnel etc.



There is a popular notion which has gained considerable credit that the USA is a favoured area for the appearance of UFOs. Nothing could be more fallacious. We should bear in mind that the USA is larger in area than that of Australia and that there are far more people and, ipso facto, more observers living there. Furthermore, in the USA there has been in existence for many years an official investigating commission which collects reports of phenomena and incidents observed in all parts of the country, whether by members of the USAF — who have received general orders to do so — or by private individuals, all of whom readily communicate their findings. This would amply account for the large number of sightings reported in the USA.

A thorough, systematic investigation in Australia, carried out under similar conditions, would undoubtedly lead to figures yielding proportionately the same results.

What are these objects and can we safely ignore their presence in our skies? The UFO Societies in Australia have one common ambition — to serve the truth. However amazing the phenomena which have been detected in our skies, they require a rational explanation. Blank scepticism and sustained negation have never helped to solve any problem, and that of the UFOs is one of the most momentous which mankind will have to solve.

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian UFO Research Society.

The earliest UFO group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian UFO Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on 17th February 1958 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered — this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and magazines and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on UFOs, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in General Meetings and maintains the largest UFO library in the Southern Hemisphere, making books available by post, to members throughout the Commonwealth.

Membership of this Society — which maintains the largest membership of any UFO organisation in the Southern Hemisphere — is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

# The Australian Annual Flying SAUCER Review

## Overseas U.F.O. NEWS



## Is U.S. Government engaging in UFO coverup?

By Walter Massey

The U.S. government for years has denied that Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) are alien spacecraft and has explained sightings as mistaken identification of familiar phenomenon.

But UFO researchers through Freedom of Information Act law-suits have obtained documents which show that the government takes UFO sightings seriously — and has deliberately misled the public in order not to cause panic.

Robert Hastings, a researcher into the subject of UFOs presented a 1½ hour slide show and lecture to students and faculty members Monday at Beckley College.

Hastings' assertion — given on a "take it or leave it" basis — is that earth has indeed been visited by spacecraft from other worlds, that officials of the U.S. government know this, and that the truth has been deliberately covered up.

The lecturer got involved in the UFO controversy after a first-hand experience. He was in a military air traffic control tower when radar screens tracked five UFOs nearby. When jets were scrambled to pursue the UFOs, the objects left the vicinity in bursts of speed far exceeding the capability of any earthly aircraft, Hastings said.

That experience left deep impression on Hastings, and he began researching the entire subject of UFOs.

**NOW AS** a full-time lecturer on UFOs, Hastings says his telephone has been tapped and that parcels of documents being mailed to him apparently have been intercepted. He feels that he is under surveillance by the government agencies which have hushed up and "debunked" information on UFOs for years.

According to Hastings, not only have alien spacecraft been tracked on radar, but much more tangible evidence has been gathered which has proven that they are extraterrestrial in origin. Alien spacecraft have been filmed, photographed and — astonishingly — examined first-hand by government agents.

Hastings showed a slide of a memo from J. Edgar Hoover, then FBI director, which indicated that other government agencies had excluded the FBI from an examination of the wreckage of an alien spacecraft which had crashed in the U.S.

**RETIRED** military officers, Hastings said, have given sworn statements that the government has collected not only the wreckage of two alien spacecraft which have crashed but also the charred remains of the non-human crew members who had died in the crashes.

One such crash, in the 1950s, was reported to the Air Force by a rancher in the Southwest. Widespread media coverage resulted. Reports at the time, according to Hastings, described the metal in the wreckage to be very thin but extremely strong. If it were bent, it would spring back into its original shape. It could not be permanently dented. It was very light-weight.

Hastings said officials at the scene were quickly hushed up by a high-ranking officer who arrived and took charge. The rancher was taken into custody and held for a week until publicity subsided and reporters finally left.

An official statement said the wreckage was part of a weather tracking project. But when reporters left, Air Force personnel combed the area for every bit of wreckage. It was loaded on an airplane and flown out of the area in secrecy.

**HASTINGS** contends, despite the government's claim that it ended UFO investigations when Project Bluebook was closed in 1969, such research continues in top secrecy.

The highly publicized Project Bluebook by the Air Force was merely a public relations gimmick, Hastings said. The real information on UFOs is closely held by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the National Security Administration (NSA) and by the White House.

While campaigning, Jimmy Carter had said he had personally sighted a UFO. Hastings showed a slide of an article from *U.S. News & World Report* in early 1977 which said that "unsettling disclosures" on UFOs would be made soon. But those disclosures never came through. Hastings theorized that national security advisers had convinced Carter not to change government policy on UFOs.

Hastings did not condemn government policy. It has a rationale in that it is designed not to create panic, he said. But he disagrees with it, saying it is "Short-sighted."

Apparently out of concern for the nation's sense of security the government has been covering up UFO reports for 30 years, Hastings said.

The position of the government is that UFOs can be explained as solar reflections on clouds, as small meteors or as flattened hailstones, Hastings said.

The "debunking" effort began in 1953 when the CIA took charge of the UFO investigations, Hastings said. A regulation was issued to provide procedures for making reports of UFO sightings. Military pilots were forbidden to release information on sightings to the press or the public. Later, the secrecy order was extended to commercial airline pilots.

Hastings said that those covered by secrecy orders are subject to severe penalties for unauthorized disclosures of UFO sighting reports.

**AMERICAN** citizens have made direct contact with aliens, Hastings said.

One such contact happened in 1961 in New Hampshire. Betty and Barney Hill were driving when they became drowsy. They awoke two hours later several miles down the road.

Under hypnosis by a psychiatrist, the couple remembered a terrifying experience in which they were taken aboard an alien spacecraft and given physical examinations. They recalled under hypnosis that the aliens communicated with them in broken English, and that they were told they would not remember their experience. Under hypnosis, the couple even drew sketches of the aliens and their spacecraft.

**HASTINGS** may well be right. I offer this to readers as he has, as a "take it or leave it" proposition. If we are being visited by extraterrestrials, they mean us no harm. They are far more advanced than we are. If they meant to harm us, they could have done so already.

I agree that the government secrecy is misguided. Information is the best way to avoid panic. When widespread sightings are attributed to "marsh gas" as happened in the 1960's, credibility is strained.

Disclosure now of all that the government knows about alien spacecraft, if that's what they are, would prepare the people for the contingency that all of us have in mind: The day that a spacecraft lands in Washington and something looking like E.T. says, "Take me to your Leader."



## Eisenhower was Visited by UFO British Lord Claims

By John Picton, Toronto Star

A British lord claims U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower met aliens from outer space.

It happened at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Feb. 20, 1954, says the Earl of Clancarty (family motto: By Counsel and Prudence).

Lord Clancarty says he was told about the incident by a former U.S. test pilot who witnessed the visit.

He says the pilot, now a retired colonel, doesn't want to be identified.

"The pilot says he was one of six people at the meeting with the UFOnuts," Clancarty told *The Sunday Star* from the House of Lords, where he is **chairman of an all-party UFO study group**.

"Five alien craft landed at the base. Two were cigar-shaped and three were saucer-shaped. The aliens looked human-like, but not exactly."

They had the same proportions as a human and were able to breathe without helmets, he says.

They didn't say where they were from.

He said Eisenhower was summoned from a golf game at nearby Palm Springs to meet the aliens, who spoke English and told the president **they wanted to start an education program for the people of the earth**.

According to Clancarty, "Eisenhower said that was all right with him."

Then they displayed their para-normal powers and made themselves invisible.

"This caused the president some discomfort," his lordship quotes the pilot as saying. "The aliens then boarded their spaceships and left. All of us were sworn to secrecy."

Clancarty, who has written seven books on UFOs, says he found out about the secret meeting about three years ago when the colonel was visiting England.

Now, officials at the U.S.-based Centre for UFO Studies say they'll be looking into the incident.

*SUNDAY STAR, Toronto, Ontario, Canada — Oct. 24, 1982 CR: G. Duplantier*

## UFO Update

HAMPTON — An unidentified flying object was reported to this newspaper last week by a woman who resides on Exeter Road in Hampton. The woman, who did not wish to be identified, said she saw the strange object on the evening of November 17, over a field across the street from her home.

The object was described as being a large bright light which flew slowly over the area at treetop level for a period of about ten minutes, beginning shortly after 9.30 p.m. It was reported to have made no noise. The sighting was not reported to the police.

The UFO was seen in the same vicinity as the strange craft reported in last week's *Atlantic News*. Both were also seen at approximately the same time in the evening (9.30 — 10.30 p.m.).

The woman additionally said she has seen similar flying objects in the same area on a number of different occasions.

*ATLANTIC NEWS & ADVERTISER, Hampton, NH Nov. 30, 1982 CR: B. Greenwood.*

## Enfield UFO Sighting: "A Monstrosity of a Disc"

By DIANE LEVICK, *Courant Staff Writer*

Former Enfield Town Council-man Paul A. Boucher is a seemingly down-to-earth guy with a story that is, quite literally, out of this world.

It isn't every day that a contract administrator for Hamilton Standard sees an acre-sized Unidentified Flying Object with some 300 piercing, white lights hovering above his car.

Yet friends and Robert H. Bletchman, a Manchester lawyer and head of Connecticut's chapter of the national Mutual UFO Network, believe Boucher actually did see such an object.

Other UFO investigators say Boucher's story bears striking similarities to other reports of UFOs.

Mark J. Rodeghier, a member of the board of directors for the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., a privately financed nationwide group, said Monday that he would contact Bletchman for more information.

Each year in Connecticut there are scores of UFO reports, many of which are attributed to pranksters. But Boucher, an Enfield resident for 17 years, Town Council member from 1977 to 1980 and a district director of Enfield's Republican Club, is a pinstripe-suited executive who initially shunned publicity about the Oct. 20 incident.

Contacted through Bletchman, Boucher consented to talk about his encounter, which, he said, "impressed the hell out of me".

Boucher, who sports a beard and moustache, was driving from his home to a Republican Club meeting in Enfield on a "nice clear, crisp night" and had turned from Elm Street onto Washington Road.

"The next thing I remember, I was onto Washington (Road) with my foot on the brake. I was looking at a monstrosity of a disc," Boucher said.

Hovering "a couple hundred feet" directly over his car, the circular object — rimmed with approximately 300 basketball-sized lights — cast bright, white lights over the area, he said. He described the object's colour as "a watery gray, like sharkskin."

He said he saw heat waves rise from the hood of his white 1979 Chrysler New Yorker but didn't feel hot himself. He heard a low-pitched, grinding whir like the sound of a motor that won't turn over.

A moment later, the lights went out and the whirring stopped. The UFO then turned a flaming red, shot up in an arc through the sky and disappeared, Boucher recalled.

"I was bawling. I was really shaken. My digital clock said 7.02 p.m.," Boucher said, adding that he left his Rosanne Street home around 6.30 p.m. and that the drive to Republican Club meetings normally takes only 15 minutes.

Boucher said he wasn't scared while the UFO was hovering above him but became frightened when the object flew away. He said he doesn't know if he blacked out during the incident.



As he talked about the encounter, Boucher appeared calm but fidgeted with a pen. He said the event somewhat unnerved him.

"Ever since I've been confused," he said. "I have an eerie feeling it's going to happen again."

Boucher said he fought the urge to return to the area, which has homes on one side and an open field on the other, but he finally did a few days later. He saw nothing unusual there.

Republican Club President Charles Duren, who listened to Boucher relate his experience that night, said he doesn't doubt Boucher saw something unusual and considers Boucher on the level.

Bletchman said he finds Boucher's story consistent with other UFO sightings except for the large number of lights that Boucher described.

"His story holds together," Bletchman said. "I am extraordinarily impressed with his credibility."

Coventry patrolman Lawrence A. Fawcett, and investigator for the Center for UFO Studies, said he believes Boucher's story.

Fawcett, who has looked into UFO sightings for 20 years and is writing a book of UFOs, estimates about 10 per cent of the reports can be attributed to natural phenomena. Other UFO investigators estimate closer to 20 per cent are unexplainable.

Boucher, smiling at the question, said his mental stability is "beyond reproach." He said his only other possible UFO sighting was in the mid-1970s when he saw two white discs in the sky. He said that when he called Bradley International Airport about the sighting, he was told other people had reported seeing something similar.

A Bradley Airport spokeswoman said no one had reported seeing anything unusual on Oct. 20.

Boucher said he isn't greatly interested in science fiction, although he has seen the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." He said he "can't really relate" to the eagerness that some of the characters displayed to meet extra-terrestrial life.

*COURANT, Hartford, CT — Dec. 7, 1982 CR: T. Beckley*

## Readers Tell Tilson

### We saw Flash too

Interim Sheriff Rich Tilson reports that the mysterious flash witnessed by himself, other area law enforcement officers, and local citizens Saturday night was also reported sighted by Nebraska citizens from Union to Fullerton.

Tilson says he has received several calls from people after they read the Associated Press account of the sightings in their local paper. Tilson described the flash as starting from a single point in the sky with white light emanating both up and down before disappearing.

What Tilson and Chief Deputy missed out on seeing Saturday night, however, were the UFOs they were called to investigate, witnessed by Joe and Tauni Murnan of Route 2, Nebraska City, and their neighbors, Ted and Phyllis Lyons.

The Murnans described the object as being round, glowing, purplish-pink in Tuesday's edition of the Lincoln Journal.

"There were two of them," said Mrs. Murnan. "One about half the size of a Volkswagen (Beetle) came down and the other went south. It looked like it sat down in our neighbors' pasture. If it didn't, it came pretty close. Then, it looked like it bounced across the highway (U.S. 73-75)."

Mrs. Murnan said at first she thought the object was a plane, but ruled that out because the object made no noise and had no flashing lights.

*NEWS-PRESS, Nebraska City, NE Dec. 15, 1982 CR: P. Guttilla*

## Visit by "Extra-Terrestrial" Leaves Many in Wonder

E.T., or at least some of his other cosmic buddies were apparently visiting the Nebraska City area Saturday night.

At 11.10 p.m., Interim Sheriff Rich Tilson says he received a report from a farm several miles northwest of Nebraska City of a UFO landing in a field. The object had reportedly spooked the farmer's horse. Tilson and Chief Deputy Tom Frudiker responded to the scene of the call, and there, with several other citizens, reported they saw two red lights in the sky. One then appeared to land in a field and the other moved in the direction of the northwest sky. Later on, a mysterious flash no one could account for also appeared in the sky.

Tilson says the lights were also seen by law enforcement officers in Johnson, Nemaha and Cass Counties, and also by a local wrecking crew. The Cass County officer said what he saw appeared to be a biplane, but a check with the Omaha Air Traffic Tower and Offutt Air Base by Tilson showed that no aircraft were in the area at that time.

Tilson says his office investigated an incident several years ago in which a helicopter was used to rustle cattle in the Nebraska City area. Several people reported the helicopter as a UFO. "This may turn out to be the same kind of thing," he says.

As of now, however, both Tilson and Frudiker laughingly deny they saw anything Saturday night.

*NEWS-PRESS, Nebraska City, NE Dec. 13, 1982 CR: P. Guttilla.*



## UFOs Recalled

**STARKS** — It was the evening of Nov. 28, 1981, when at least six persons spotted an unidentified flying object (UFO) hovering as a bright light in the sky near State Route 43 here.

The sighting produced interest not only locally, but nationally.

Robert Gribble, director of the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash., said at the time that because of repeated UFO sightings, the Starks area might be classified as one of the "hot spots" for UFO activity in the US.

Two representatives of a private organization called Parallel Phenomenon Research, located in Cambridge, Mass., traveled to Starks to interview witnesses.

And newspaper, radio stations and even a television station kept the telephone of Somerset County Deputy Sheriff Harold "Bud" Hendsbee tied up for days.

A 23-year veteran of the Somerset Sheriff's Department, Hendsbee had been off duty and driving through Starks with his wife when they both saw the UFO.

Now, a year later, the 24-year veteran of police work still doesn't doubt what he saw that Saturday evening.

"I never got over it," Hendsbee said of the UFO sightings in a recent telephone conversation, adding that his wife was even more affected by the strange encounter.

Hendsbee said the sight of the UFO was as frightening as it was fascinating. Some investigators concluded that Hendsbee and the others were looking at Venus rather than a UFO.

Asked if he still believes in the existence of UFO's a year after the strange happenings in Starks, the veteran lawman replied, Absolutely. No doubt about it."

*CENTRAL MAINE MORNING SENTINEL, Waterville, ME — Dec. 13, 1982. CR: B. Greenwood*

## UFO Landing is Reported

**COULTERVILLE** — An unverified report of a UFO landing in Mariposa County was turned into the Sheriff's office over the weekend.

Stephen Meeks, calling from a phone in Coulterville, reported he and another motorist were northbound on Highway 49 when their vehicles suddenly stopped. They exited from their cars to find the UFO landing on hilly terrain between Bear Valley and Coulterville.

The two drivers stood mesmerized as the object came down until the second man started taking some pictures.

At that point, the UFO starting making "unearthly sounds" and the two men jumped into their cars and fled the scene.

Sheriff's Department officials could not find the driver of the second car or verify Meeks report.

*SUN STAR, Merced, CA — Nov. 23, 1982*

## Colorado Encounter Has Physical Effects

A woman in a rural area of Colorado had a close encounter with a UFO accompanied by several physical effects, including a rash on her arms, reactions from farm animals within a wide radius, and physical traces where the UFO was seen to touch down, according to a report in the APRO Bulletin, Vol. 30, No. 11.

On the early morning of Aug. 30, 1982, Elizabeth Conway was awakened by what she described as a ticking sound, like an electric motor giving off sparks. Getting out of bed to investigate, she first saw a bright, orange glow through the screen door and then saw a large, orange ball descending at an angle toward a pond 100 yards from the house.

Mrs. Conway went out onto the balcony adjoining her bedroom and watched the object, which she said appeared to be about the same size as the nearly full moon and in the same quadrant of the sky, although the object was below the moon.

The object, demonstrating a wobbly motion as it descended, touched down on the pond and stayed for about a minute as the ticking sound continued. When the object took off at an angle of 45 degrees the sound stopped.

Mrs. Conway made no attempt to wake her husband, a heavy sleeper. She estimated the entire sighting lasted about two minutes.

Later that morning Mrs. Conway had a rash on her forearms which had not been there before, but it was nearly gone the next day when she was interviewed by APRO investigator B.V. Wilson.

One notable aspect of this case was the reaction of the animals. The horses in the Conway paddock ran about during the sighting as if frightened. Wilson discovered that neighbors about 1/2 mile away had been wakened by their dogs barking furiously and their horses running about as though terrified, but none of their neighbors saw the object.

On Sept. 2, the Conway's son on returning from school noted that the tall weeds growing in and around the pond had been flattened in a circle about 9 feet in diameter. The pond itself is about 2 feet deep. From the evidence Wilson calculated the orange globe to have been about 12 feet in diameter.

*NEWS WORLD, New York, NY. Jan. 8, 1983.*



## UFOs Exist

*RECENTLY NOVA*, a science-related series on PBS television, ran a program titled "The Cast of the UFO's" that was as fine a piece of propaganda as I have seen in a long time. Based upon the presentation, the viewer was invited to make a judgement as to the existence of UFO's.

Several scientist-UFO experts gave their opinions regarding the UFO phenomenon. Not one had ever seen a UFO.

These scientists seek a natural explanation for the UFO phenomena. As an example of how far they will "reach", one claimed a correlation between earthquake activity and light in the sky. But such correlations are illusory. For instance, a correlation worldwide UFO activity and the nearness to earth of the planet Mars in its orbit about the sun. Yet NASA has no evidence that UFOs are on Mars.

Another example of reaching is one scientist's belief that UFO sightings result from the observation of swarms of insects that give off an electrical discharge while in the vicinity of an electrically charged cloud, a natural phenomenon too.

Having lived in the vicinity of the New Madrid fault for 20 years and having directed a long-term scientific field study of UFO phenomena, during which I observed some 150 UFO lights, I do not believe that any of these were produced by insects or earthquakes — nor were any of the seven craft I observed.

Contrary to the opinion of "experts", I can state unequivocally that real UFOs exist and that they are not a phenomenon of nature.

**Dr. Harley Rutledge,**  
Director, Project Identification, Cape Girardeau.

*Post Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo - Nov., 6 1982 CR: R. Nelke.*

## Bee, Calerance, NY —

Nov. 24, 1982

A UFO was reported by a Clarence man. The caller said that it appeared to look like a wing of an airplane and as bluish in color.

The UFO was observed near Greiner and Goodrich Rds., and was seen only for a few seconds in southeastern direction. After a short burn-out from its two engines, it disappeared in a northeast direction.

## UFO Turns on its Red Light and Pulls Over Three Cops

**Palatine Commander Michael McDonald** has been a policeman for 16 years — long enough to know that officers who report seeing UFOs end up taking a lot of ribbing.

Nevertheless, McDonald is an officer of the law. It's his job to report anything out of the ordinary. And he says that what he saw in the sky early Saturday morning was "real unusual".

McDonald was the first of three Palatine officers on routine patrol Saturday to report seeing a UFO drifting across the village.

Commander John Setzer said McDonald and officers Dennis Somsel and Ron Roszak each spotted a strange light in the area of Northwest Highway and Smith Street just before 5 a.m.

"I saw an intense white and red light . . . pretty good size. It was bright enough to light up the ground," McDonald said. He estimated the light was 300 to 500 feet above the ground.

After McDonald called in the sightings, Somsel and Roszak independently saw the light. It made no noise, and no shape could be distinguished by the police officers because of its brightness.

McDonald, remembering a fellow officer's UFO sighting in 1965, knew he'd take some razzing for the sighting.

"You feel kind of like 'I didn't see nothing', but it was there," McDonald said. "I thought it was real unusual".

He said Palatine police called O'Hare Airport, but no aircraft was reported in the area. "I watched it (the light) for about nine minutes, then it disappeared behind Busse Woods," he said.

Nearby Rolling Meadows police, who were monitoring the Palatine calls, found "nothing stranger than normal going on at this time," Sgt. Richard Hammer said. Arlington Heights police said they didn't see anything either.

The Center for UFO Studies in Evanston said the description of the UFO partially matched the description of an unidentified flying object sighted Wednesday at about 4.30 p.m. in the South suburbs.

Mini Hyneck of the UFP center said in that incident, a railroad conductor watched a bright light in the sky until it moved off to the north. He said shortly afterward three similar lights appeared. The lights were entirely white, she said.

*Heral, Arlington Heights, IL — November 28, 1982*





**PAUL NORMAN**  
Investigator for the  
**VICTORIAN UFO  
RESEARCH SOCIETY**

For private interviews with witnesses who have observed unidentified flying objects.  
The Society is in direct contact with leading scientists who are endeavouring to  
solve the UFO phenomena.

People interested in this subject may subscribe to The Australian UFO Bulletin,  
PO Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic., 3189.

## Information Held Back!

**Secretary of the Victorian UFO Research Society believes that the United States is holding back important information which could help solve one of the greatest mysteries of our time.**

Mr. Mark Sawyers said that the USA had stockpiled a great deal of information on reported sightings of UFOs since World War II but had not released any of it to other nations.

Mr. Sawyers has been in Mildura to create awareness of the Victorian UFO Research Society.

The Society at present has 280 members world-wide, with 150 members in Victoria.

The Society was formed in 1957 and employs one full-time investigator, whose job it is to sift through and investigate the many reported sightings of UFOs throughout Australia.

Mr. Sawyers said that hundreds of sightings had been reported to the Society, but more were to do with colored lights in the sky at night.

"These reports are often disregarded as there is too many possibilities as to what they are," he said.

He recalls one of the most interesting cases reported being the disappearance over Bass Strait in 1978 of Fredrick Valentich.

Valentich was in a plane on a flight to King Is. and when last in radio contact with the mainland reported a strange object hovering above . . . nothing further was heard from him.

Mr. Sawyers said there had been many theories put to Valentich's disappearance but no real evidence was found.

Mr. Sawyers believes there are UFOs.

"There is certainly something out there, but what they are and where they come from is another thing."

Mr. Sawyers has urged anyone who witnesses a "Close Encounter" to contact the Society on (03) 379 4930.

## Society History

1957

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered — this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

The Society had held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in General Meetings and maintains the largest U.F.O. library in the Southern Hemisphere, making books available by post, to members throughout the Commonwealth.

Membership of this Society — which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere — is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

**V.U.F.O.R.S., P.O. BOX 43, MOORABBIN,  
VICTORIA 3189**

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# **The Australian Annual Flying SAUCER Review**

**Unexplained Visitors from Where ?**



**The Victorian UFO Research Society**